

IPW

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7552.0029

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Roberto NERI ) Group Art Unit: 3762  
)  
Application No.: 10/804,147 ) Examiner: Jason M. Greene  
)  
Filed: March 19, 2004 )  
)  
For: A DEVICE FOR PROTECTING ) Confirmation No.: 3611  
MEDICAL APPARATUS )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**  
**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

This Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in addition to the Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 26, 2005, the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 4, 2005, and the Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 20, 2004. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Third Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed foreign patent documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Either English language Abstracts or English translations of the claims of the non-English patent documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

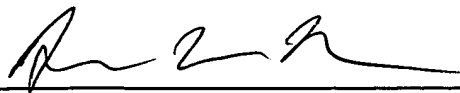
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

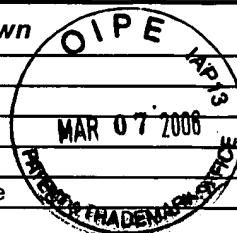
Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 7, 2006

By:   
Aaron L. Parker  
Reg. No. 50,785

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|--|-----------------|----|--|--|--------------------|------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------|----------|------|---------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------|
| IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO<br><br><h2 style="text-align: center;">INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">(Use as many sheets as necessary)</p> |                 |    | <div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">Complete if Known</div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/804,147</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>March 19, 2004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Roberto NERI</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Art Unit</td> <td>3762</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Jason M. Greene</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>7552.0029</td> </tr> </table> |  | Application Number | 10/804,147 | Filing Date | March 19, 2004 | First Named Inventor | Roberto NERI | Art Unit | 3762 | Examiner Name | Jason M. Greene | Attorney Docket Number | 7552.0029 |
| Application Number   | 10/804,147      |    |  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |
| Filing Date  | March 19, 2004  |    |  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |
| First Named Inventor   | Roberto NERI    |    |  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |
| Art Unit   | 3762            |    |  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |
| Examiner Name  | Jason M. Greene |    |  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |
| Attorney Docket Number   | 7552.0029       |    |  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |
| Sheet  | 1               | of | 1  |  |                    |            |             |                |                      |              |          |      |               |                 |                        |           |



| U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS |                       |  |   |   |   |
|---|-----------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Examiner Initials                                   | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Issue or Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|   |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |   |   |   |
|   |                       | US-6,536,278                             | 03/25/2003                              | Scagliarini                                     |   |
|   |                       | US-2004/173516                           | 09/09/2004                              | Guala   |   |
|   |                       | US-2005/132826                           | 06/23/2005                              | Teugels   |   |
|   |                       | US-                                      |   |   |   |
|   |                       | US-                                      |   |   |   |
|   |                       | US-                                      |   |   |   |
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**Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                                |   |   |                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials        | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
|                          |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |   |                          |
|                          |                       | EP 1 547 630 A1   | 06/29/2005                     | Teugels, Ludwig                                 |   |                          |
|                          |                       | EP 0 878 628 B1   | 11/18/1998                     | Filtertek B.V.                                  |   | Yes (Abstract)           |
|                          |                       | EP 0 887 085 B1   | 12/30/1998                     | Industrie Borla SpA                             |   |                          |
|                          |                       | IT-TO93A000368  | 05/29/1993                     | Industrie Borla SpA                             |   | Yes (Claims)             |
|                          |                       | IT-TO96A001000  | 12/10/1996                     | Industrie Borla SpA                             |   | Yes (Claims)             |
|                          |                       | WO 99/54022   | 10/28/1999                     | SARTO-RIUS AG                                   |   | Yes (Abstract)           |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                       |   |                          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials               | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | Translation <sup>6</sup> |
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| Examiner Signature |  | Date Considered |  |
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